

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. For use in a wireless network, a base station capable of controlling the use of the reduced slot cycle mode by a plurality of mobile stations communicating with said base station, said base station comprising:

a reduced slot cycle controller capable of causing said base station to transmit a paging channel message to said plurality of mobile stations, wherein said paging channel message comprises a first data field containing a first reduced slot cycle index (SCI) value to be used by a first selected mobile station.

2. The base station as set forth in Claim 1 wherein said paging channel message further comprises a second data field operable to select said first selected mobile station to use said first reduced SCI value.

3. The base station as set forth in Claim 2 wherein said paging channel message is a General Page message.

4. The base station as set forth in Claim 3 wherein said General Page message comprises a plurality of page records, each of said page records associated with one of said plurality of mobile stations.

5. The base station as set forth in Claim 4 wherein said second data field selects said first selected mobile station to use said first reduced SCI value by associating a first one of said page records with said first reduced SCI value.

6. The base station as set forth in Claim 1 wherein said first data field contains a first reduced SCI value to be used by a first selected group of mobile stations.

7. The base station as set forth in Claim 6 wherein said paging channel message further comprises a second data field operable to select said first selected group of mobile stations to use said first reduced SCI value.

8. The base station as set forth in Claim 7 wherein said paging channel message is a General Page message.

9. The base station as set forth in Claim 8 wherein said General Page message comprises a plurality of page records, each of said page records associated with one of said plurality of mobile stations.

10. The base station as set forth in Claim 9 wherein said second data field selects said first selected group of mobile stations to use said first reduced SCI value by associating each of said plurality of page records with said first reduced SCI value.

11. A wireless network comprising a plurality of base stations, each of said plurality of base stations capable of controlling the use of the reduced slot cycle mode by a plurality of mobile stations communicating with said each base station, wherein said each base station comprises:

a reduced slot cycle controller capable of causing said base station to transmit a paging channel message to said plurality of mobile stations, wherein said paging channel message comprises a first data field containing a first reduced slot cycle index (SCI) value to be used by a first selected mobile station.

12. The wireless network as set forth in Claim 11 wherein said paging channel message further comprises a second data field operable to select said first selected mobile station to use said first reduced SCI value.

13. The wireless network as set forth in Claim 12 wherein said paging channel message is a General Page message.

14. The wireless network as set forth in Claim 13 wherein said General Page message comprises a plurality of page records, each of said page records associated with one of said plurality of mobile stations.

15. The wireless network as set forth in Claim 14 wherein said second data field selects said first selected mobile station to use said first reduced SCI value by associating a first one of said page records with said first reduced SCI value.

16. The wireless network as set forth in Claim 11 wherein said first data field contains a first reduced SCI value to be used by a first selected group of mobile stations.

17. The wireless network as set forth in Claim 16 wherein said paging channel message further comprises a second data field operable to select said first selected group of mobile stations to use said first reduced SCI value.

18. The wireless network as set forth in Claim 17 wherein said paging channel message is a General Page message.

19. The wireless network as set forth in Claim 18 wherein said General Page message comprises a plurality of page records, each of said page records associated with one of said plurality of mobile stations.

20. The wireless network as set forth in Claim 19 wherein said second data field selects said first selected group of mobile stations to use said first reduced SCI value by associating each of said plurality of page records with said first reduced SCI value.

21. For use in a wireless network, a method of controlling the use of the reduced slot cycle mode by a plurality of mobile stations communicating with a base station, the method comprising the step of:

transmitting a paging channel message to the plurality of mobile stations, wherein the paging channel message comprises a first data field containing a first reduced slot cycle index (SCI) value to be used by a first selected mobile station.

22. The method as set forth in Claim 21 wherein the paging channel message further comprises a second data field operable to select the first selected mobile station to use the first reduced SCI value.

23. The method as set forth in Claim 22 wherein the paging channel message is a General Page message.

24. The method as set forth in Claim 23 wherein the General Page message comprises a plurality of page records, each of the page records associated with one of the plurality of mobile stations.

25. The method as set forth in Claim 24 wherein the second data field selects the first selected mobile station to use the first reduced SCI value by associating a first one of the page records with the first reduced SCI value.